



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

***Raised Bill No. 1344***

LCO No. 4330

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Workforce  
Development

Introduced by:  
(WFD)

***AN ACT UPDATING CONNECTICUT'S STRATEGIC FIVE-YEAR  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PLAN TO INCLUDE AN EDUCATION  
COMPONENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (b) of section 31-11p of the general statutes is repealed  
2 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (b) The plan shall, at a minimum, include:

4 (1) Long-term goals for the state's workforce development system.  
5 Such goals shall include local control of service delivery, one-stop  
6 delivery of services, individual choice for individuals served by the  
7 system, accountability for provider performance, coordination of  
8 workforce development activities integrating state and federal  
9 resources and the establishment of ties between funding and actual  
10 participation in training activities;

11 (2) Short-term goals, benchmarks and performance measures that  
12 the state will use to measure its progress towards meeting the long-  
13 term goals identified in subdivision (1) of this subsection;

14 (3) Identification of the role each institution, entity, organization and  
15 program plays in the state-wide workforce development system;

16 (4) Ways to improve access to public and certified nonpublic  
17 postsecondary educational institutions;

18 (5) A strategy for assessing unmet workforce preparation needs;

19 (6) A description of comprehensive performance measures to ensure  
20 coordination and eliminate duplication of services;

21 (7) A strategy for assessing types of jobs for which there are  
22 shortages of available qualified workers and the geographical  
23 concentration of unmet workforce needs in this state;

24 (8) A strategy for maximizing or redirecting funding to deliver  
25 services more effectively to meet the state's workforce development  
26 needs;

27 (9) A provision stating that the members of the Connecticut  
28 Employment and Training Commission and the regional workforce  
29 development boards shall comply with state ethics laws and the  
30 applicable provisions of Sections 111(f) and 117(g) of the federal  
31 Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time  
32 amended;

33 (10) A provision stating that the Labor Commissioner and the  
34 Commissioners of Social Services and Education shall develop a  
35 coordinated program of referring workforce development participants  
36 to supportive services, including, but not limited to, transportation and  
37 child care services for eligible participants of workforce activities.  
38 Such program shall include a requirement that each regional  
39 workforce development board submit an annual report to the  
40 commission on or before January 31, 2000, and each January thirty-first  
41 thereafter detailing such board's plan for coordinating such supportive  
42 services;

43 (11) A description of the state of Connecticut's proposed one-stop  
44 delivery system, which shall be consistent with the provisions of  
45 Section 134(c) of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L.  
46 105-220, as from time to time amended, and shall include a description  
47 of the following components: (A) A uniform individual training  
48 accounts voucher system which shall be used by the regional  
49 workforce development boards to pay for training of eligible workers  
50 by eligible providers and which shall include a reporting system that  
51 ties funding to actual participation in training programs, (B) the core  
52 services, as identified in subdivision (12) of this subsection, which shall  
53 be available to adults or dislocated workers, including exemptions  
54 from core services, (C) the intensive services, as identified in  
55 subdivision (13) of this subsection, which shall be available to adults or  
56 dislocated workers who have received the maximum amount of core  
57 services but were unable to obtain employment through such core  
58 services, including prerequisites for obtaining such intensive services  
59 and exemptions from such prerequisites, and (D) the training services,  
60 as identified in subdivision (14) of this subsection, which shall be  
61 available to adults or dislocated workers who have received intensive  
62 services, but were unable to obtain unsubsidized employment through  
63 such intensive services, including prerequisites for obtaining such  
64 training services and exemptions from such prerequisites;

65 (12) Identification of core services available under the one-stop  
66 delivery system, which shall, at a minimum, include: (A)  
67 Determination of whether individuals are eligible to receive assistance  
68 under Subtitle B of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L.  
69 105-220, as from time to time amended; (B) outreach, intake and  
70 orientation to the information and other services available through the  
71 one-stop delivery system; (C) a uniform assessment procedure for  
72 screening adults and dislocated workers which shall include, but not  
73 be limited to, initial assessment of skill levels, aptitudes, abilities,  
74 supportive service needs and for application of the self-sufficiency  
75 measurement developed in accordance with the provisions of section  
76 4-66e; (D) job search and placement assistance and, where appropriate,

77 career counseling; (E) provision of (i) employment statistics  
78 information, including the provision of accurate information  
79 concerning local, regional and national labor market areas, including  
80 job vacancy listings in such labor market areas, information on job  
81 skills necessary to obtain such vacant jobs and information relating to  
82 local occupations in demand and the earnings and skill requirements  
83 for such occupations; (ii) provider performance information and  
84 program cost information on eligible providers of training services, as  
85 described in Section 122 of the federal Workforce Investment Act of  
86 1998 P.L. 105-220, as from time to time amended, provided by  
87 program, and eligible providers of youth activities described in Section  
88 123 of said act, eligible providers of adult education described in Title  
89 II of said act, providers of postsecondary vocational education  
90 activities and vocational education activities, which shall include, but  
91 not be limited to, preapprentice programs available through, but not  
92 limited to, regional vocational-technical schools, available to school  
93 dropouts under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied  
94 Technology Education Act, 20 USC 2301, et seq., and providers of  
95 vocational rehabilitation program activities described in Title I of the  
96 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 720, et seq.; (iii) information  
97 regarding how the local area is performing on the local performance  
98 measures and any additional performance information with respect to  
99 the one-stop delivery system in the local area; (iv) accurate information  
100 concerning the availability of supportive services, including child care  
101 and transportation, available through the local area and referral to  
102 such services, as appropriate; (v) information regarding filing claims  
103 for unemployment compensation under chapter 567; (F) assistance in  
104 establishing eligibility for programs of financial aid assistance for  
105 training and education programs that are not funded under said act  
106 and are available through the local area; (G) follow-up services,  
107 including counseling regarding the workplace, for participants in  
108 workforce investment activities authorized under Subtitle B of the  
109 federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to  
110 time amended, who are placed in unsubsidized employment, for not

111 less than twelve months after the first day of the employment, as  
112 appropriate; and (H) assistance in establishing eligibility for  
113 authorized activities under Section 403(a)(5) of the Social Security Act,  
114 as added by Section 5001 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, available  
115 in the local area. For purposes of this subdivision, "local area" refers to  
116 an area designated as such pursuant to Section 116 of the federal  
117 Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time  
118 amended;

119 (13) Identification of intensive services available under the one-stop  
120 delivery system, which services may include (A) comprehensive and  
121 specialized assessments of the skill levels and service needs of adults  
122 and dislocated workers, which may include diagnostic testing, use of  
123 special education planning and placement teams and use of other  
124 assessment tools and in-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify  
125 employment barriers and appropriate employment goals; (B)  
126 development of an individual employment plan to identify the  
127 employment goals, appropriate achievement objectives and  
128 appropriate combination of services for the participant to achieve the  
129 employment goals; (C) group counseling; (D) individual counseling  
130 and career planning; (E) case management for participants seeking  
131 training services authorized under the federal Workforce Investment  
132 Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time amended; and (F) short-  
133 term prevocational services, including development of learning skills,  
134 communication skills, interviewing skills, punctuality, personal  
135 maintenance skills and professional conduct, to prepare individuals for  
136 unsubsidized employment or training;

137 (14) Identification of training services authorized under the federal  
138 Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time  
139 amended, that are available under the one-stop delivery system, which  
140 services may include a combination of occupational skills training,  
141 including training for nontraditional employment, on-the-job training,  
142 programs that combine workplace training with related instruction,  
143 which may include cooperative education programs, training

144 programs operated by the private sector, skill upgrading and  
145 retraining, entrepreneurial training, job readiness training, adult  
146 education and literacy activities and customized job training  
147 conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers  
148 to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training;

149 (15) Development of a uniform system of identifying and certifying  
150 eligible providers of the training services described in subdivision (13)  
151 of this subsection, which system shall (A) incorporate each of the  
152 requirements of Section 122 of the federal Workforce Investment Act of  
153 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time amended, and (B) be used by  
154 each regional workforce development board in selecting an eligible  
155 provider of training services;

156 (16) A strategy for the establishment of (A) regional youth councils  
157 by the regional workforce development boards, which regional youth  
158 councils shall (i) recommend eligible providers of youth activities to  
159 the council and conduct oversight of eligible providers of youth  
160 activities; (ii) in cooperation with local boards of education, identify  
161 available programs and activities to assist youth in completing  
162 education programs; (iii) identify available programs and activities to  
163 assist youth in securing and preserving employment; and (iv)  
164 coordinate youth activities with Job Corps services, coordinate youth  
165 activities authorized under the federal Workforce Investment Act of  
166 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time amended, and improve the  
167 connection between court-involved youth and the state labor market;  
168 and (B) criteria for selection of regional youth council members and  
169 awarding youth program grants for state-wide youth activities  
170 described in Section 129(b) of the federal Workforce Investment Act of  
171 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time amended;

172 (17) Development of a program to provide job readiness and job  
173 search training to unemployed and underemployed noncustodial  
174 parents no later than July 1, 2000;

175 (18) Development of a career pathways program to link alternative

176 education programs to regional community-technical colleges and  
177 work-related learning no later than October 1, 2000; [and]

178 (19) A description of the state of Connecticut's proposed plan for  
179 adult education and secondary and postsecondary vocational  
180 education programs authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational  
181 and Applied Technology Education Act, 20 U S C 2301 et seq.;

182 (20) A description of the methods to be used for joint planning and  
183 coordination of the state's workforce development programs and  
184 activities and the state's adult education and secondary and  
185 postsecondary vocational education programs, which shall include an  
186 opportunity for the Commissioner of Education to review and  
187 comment on all portions of the plan; and

188 ~~[(19)]~~ (21) Any other provisions required to be included in the plan  
189 under Sections 111 and 112 of the federal Workforce Investment Act of  
190 1998, P.L. 105-220, as from time to time amended.

191 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To update Connecticut's Strategic Five-Year State Workforce Investment Plan to include a description of the state's proposed plan for adult education and secondary and postsecondary vocational education.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*